

Applicants have cancelled all of the originally-filed Claims and replaced them with new Claims, 44 through 86, which better encompass the full scope and breadth of the invention notwithstanding Applicants belief that the Claims would have been allowable as originally filed. Accordingly, Applicants assert that no Claims have been narrowed within the meaning of *Festo*.

A U.S. format Abstract is provided.

A PTO 1449 listing all of the references cited in the International Search Report is provided.

Entry of the new Claims and Abstract and early and favorable action on the merits of this application are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

THE FIRM OF HUESCHEN AND SAGE

By: G. Patrick Sage  
G. PATRICK SAGE

Dated: August 9, 2001  
Customer No.: 25,666  
500 Columbia Plaza  
350 East Michigan Ave.  
Kalamazoo, MI 49007  
(616) 382-0030

Enclosure: Postal Card Receipt  
Sequence Listing - Paper copy  
Sequence Listing - diskette copy  
Statement under 37 CFR § 1.821(f)  
Abstract of the Disclosure  
Claims 44 through 86  
PTO 1449